



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5219**

February Session, 2012

\* \_\_\_\_HB05219HS\_\_\_\_032612\_\_\_\_ \*

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF YOUNG ADULTS IN THE  
ANNUAL REPORT CARD ON POLICIES AND PROGRAMS  
AFFECTING CHILDREN.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 2-53m of the 2012 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 (a) As used in this section:

5 (1) "Child" means any person under eighteen years of age;

6 (2) "Young adult" means any person eighteen years of age or older  
7 but under twenty-five years of age.

8 ~~[(a)]~~ (b) The select committee of the General Assembly having  
9 cognizance of matters relating to children, in consultation with the  
10 Office of Fiscal Analysis, the Office of Legislative Research and the  
11 Commission on Children, shall maintain an annual report card that  
12 evaluates the progress of state policies and programs in promoting the  
13 result that all Connecticut children and young adults grow up in a  
14 stable living environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead successful  
15 lives. Progress shall be measured by primary indicators of progress,  
16 including, but not limited to, indicators established in the final report  
17 of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee

18 prepared pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of public act 09-166, of  
19 state-wide rates of child abuse, child poverty, low birth weight, third  
20 grade reading proficiency, and the annual social health index  
21 developed pursuant to section 46a-131a. For each indicator, the data  
22 shall also be presented according to ethnicity or race, gender,  
23 geography and, where appropriate, age and other relevant  
24 characteristics. Said committee shall prepare the report card on or  
25 before January 15, 2012, and annually thereafter. On or before January  
26 15, 2012, and annually thereafter, said committee shall make the report  
27 card available to the public on the Internet and on the web site of the  
28 General Assembly and shall transmit the report card electronically to  
29 (1) members of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
30 having cognizance of matters relating to appropriations and the  
31 budgets of state agencies and human services, (2) the Commissioners  
32 of Children and Families, Education and Public Health, (3) the Child  
33 Advocate, (4) the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,  
34 and (5) the Chief Court Administrator.

35 [(b)] (c) On or before January 15, [2012] 2013, the select committee of  
36 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
37 children, in consultation with a working group of representatives of  
38 state agencies and departments, community organizations, private  
39 provider agencies operating programs that impact the well-being of  
40 children, young adults and families, parents and other caretakers of  
41 children and young adults, child advocacy organizations, young adult  
42 advocacy organizations, health care professionals that serve children,  
43 young adults and families, schools, and child care providers, shall  
44 identify or develop (1) an indicator for measuring whether children  
45 and young adults are living with their families and have stability in  
46 their living environments, (2) secondary indicators for measuring  
47 progress within each area of children's and young adults' well-being  
48 related to measuring progress in their health, safety, stability,  
49 education and future success, including, but not limited to, food  
50 security, and (3) key measures of performance of the state child  
51 welfare system, including, but not limited to, (A) rates of repeat

52 maltreatment among victims of child abuse and neglect; (B) placement  
 53 in out-of-home care among children at risk of abuse and neglect; (C)  
 54 child fatalities involving child abuse or neglect; (D) rates of  
 55 reunification and permanency for children removed from their homes;  
 56 and (E) the developmental and health status and educational progress  
 57 of children served by the child welfare system and other appropriate  
 58 measures of well-being and preparation for success in life. Not less  
 59 than annually, said committee shall: (i) With the assistance of the  
 60 working group, review the adequacy of primary and secondary  
 61 indicators, system-level performance measures, and related data  
 62 resources for such indicators and measures, and determine whether  
 63 there are more appropriate alternatives to monitoring progress in  
 64 achieving the result that all Connecticut children and young adults  
 65 grow up in a stable living environment, safe, healthy and ready to lead  
 66 successful lives, and (ii) in consultation with the results-based  
 67 accountability subcommittee of the joint standing committee of the  
 68 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
 69 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, identify programs  
 70 within the child welfare system that make a significant contribution to  
 71 achieving such result and require the entities administering such  
 72 programs to prepare annual report cards employing the results-based  
 73 format developed by said subcommittee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2012	2-53m
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**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In section 1(a)(2) "at least" was removed for conciseness.

**KID**                      *Joint Favorable C/R*    HS

**HS**                      *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*